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Insect value chain in a circular bioeconomy (inVALUABLE)

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inVALUABLE is a major collaboration project involving (mainly Danish) research institutions and companies and was initiated 2017. The project aims to contribute to improvement and development of major focus areas in the insect value chain; insect production and processing, and product application. The project will focus on optimizing reproduction, growth and health of two beetle species, namely lesser mealworm (*Alphitobius diasperinus*) and common mealworm (*Tenebrio molitor*). There will be specific focus on the future rearing facilities and automation of these in order to ensure a competitive end-product. The processing of the biomass will be investigated to find the most viable solution regarding nutritional quality for animal feed and human consumption, including optimization of protein digestibility. Animal feeding trials will be performed and the composition and ingredients in insect products will be evaluated in relation to human consumption. There will be major focus on feed and food safety and different challenges will be addressed to support related legislation. inVALUABLE will touch upon most of the insect-supply chain and produce a range of new data for use in development of insects as future feed and food. inVALUABLE is supported by Innovation Fund Denmark and has a total budget of approx. 3.7 Million EUR.